

Fort Huachuca

Sgt

TimeOut

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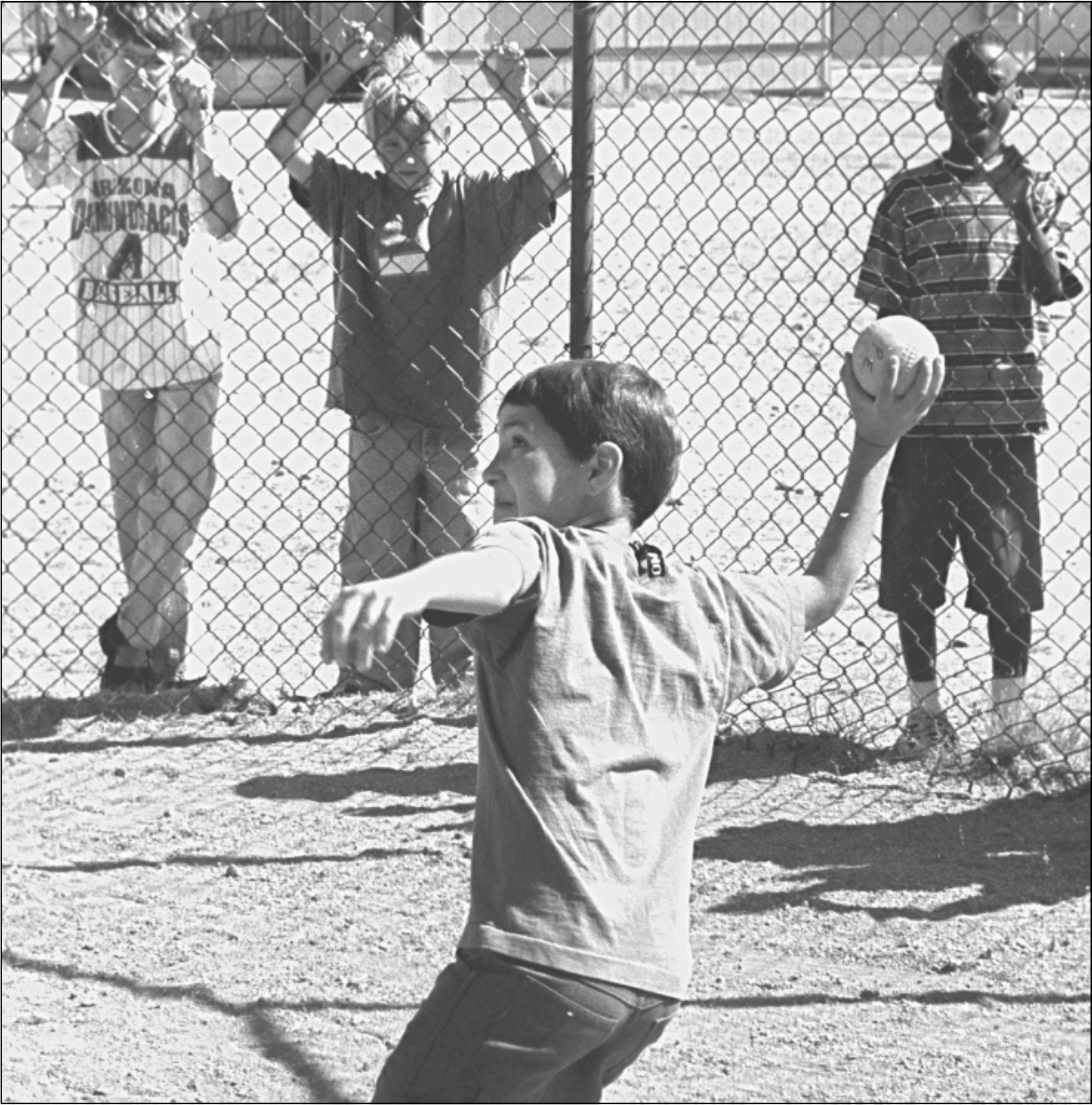


Photo by Sgt. Cullen James

Anthony Lunetta, Myer Elementary school fourth grader, prepares to throw a softball during the Myer Elementary School Field Day Monday. For more on the field day events, see Page 4.

Tucson pro, Hereford family member take top at 2-10-2

By Sgt. Cullen James
Scout Staff

A Tucson running and cyclist coach and a local family member took the top spots at the 7th Annual Fort Huachuca 2-10-2 Biathlon Saturday.

Military and civilians took the challenging course in the grueling heat for a two-mile run, 10-mile bike and another two-mile run. Top times ranged from 48 minutes, 12 seconds to 59:28.

“It was awesome,” said John McEvoy, the

top male finisher. “It’s a nice open course, a little hilly, and you don’t have to worry about cars.

“The soldiers stationed here do a good job of marshaling the course,” McEvoy added.

“It’s a great course,” said Angela Cook, first place female finisher, who had run the Thunder Mountain Marathon half marathon two weeks prior. “I’ve done several organized races and really enjoy them. I actually enjoy doing triathlons and there aren’t too many local races. So, when there is, I jump on it.”



The biathlon started a little after 7 a.m. and the group took off to a quick start.



Photos by Sgt. Cullen James

Sarah Forsyiaak tags off to husband A.J. TeamForsyiaak finished first in coed teams and 21st overall.



Charles Owen finishes the 10-mile bike as some of his soldiers watch in the background.



Left: Top male finisher, John McEvoy, completes the bike portion prior to taking off on the second run. McEvoy finished with a time of 48:12.

Right: Angela Cook, fort family member, won the overall female top slot with a time of 58:07. Cook had previously run the Thunder Mountain Marathon half marathon two weeks earlier.



7th Annual 2-10-2 top placers

Overall Male:
John McEvoy, 48:12

Overall Female:
Angela Cook, 58:07

18-29 Male:
1. Kert St. John, 53:26
2. James Snyder, 58:27
3. Marc Meyle, 59:12

18-29 Female:
1. Amanda Wendelken, 1:04:18
2. Michelle Lewis, 1:06:20
3. Marnie Kushner, 1:20:18

30-39 Male:
1. John McEvoy, 48:12
2. Charles Owen, 59:28
3. Mike Baltunis, 1:05:15

30-39 Female:
1. Angela Cook, 58:07
2. Jennifer Shiver, 1:40:41

40-49 Male:
1. Gary McCloud, 57:39
2. Oliver Sloan, 1:00:44
3. Joe Pintor, 1:01:19

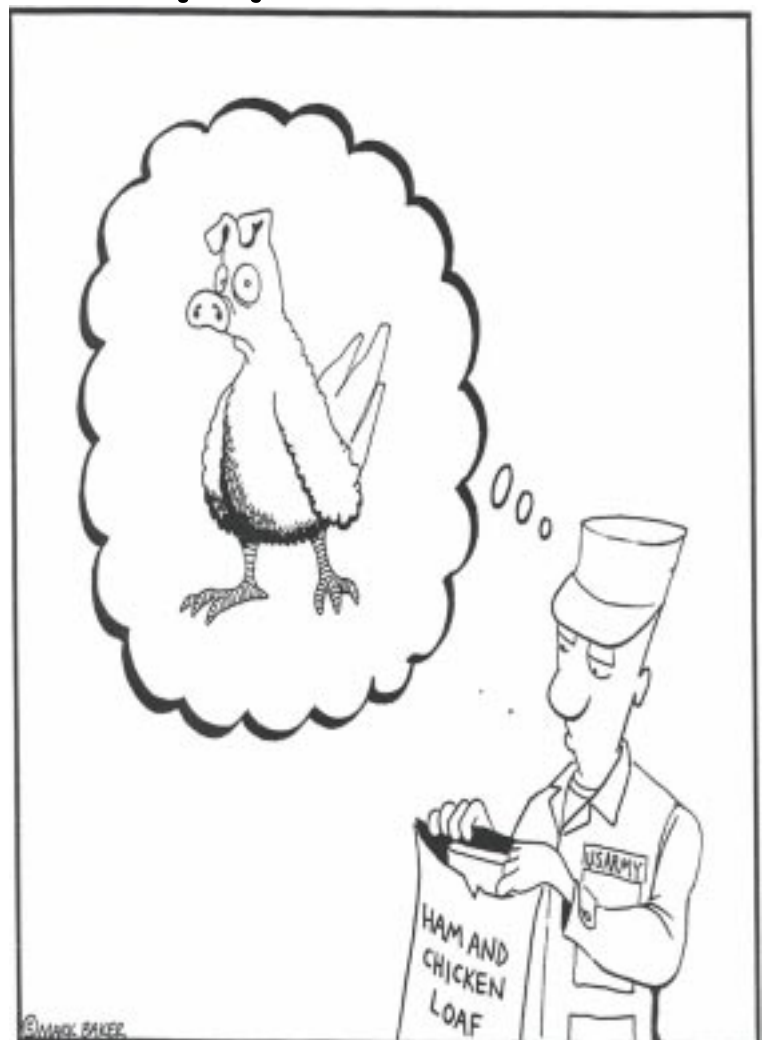
40-49 Female:
1. Karen Rieffer, 1:13:52
2. Marsha Prince, 1:24:06

50-59 Male:
1. Thomas Armer, 1:04:26
2. Steve Siegert, 1:12:52
3. Ed Rimron, 1:13:41

Coed Team:
1. Team Forsyiaak, no time listed

Male Team:
1. TeamCandA, 50:57
2. TeamCAbeck, 52:05
3. TeamKickinMules, 55:34

Female Team:
1. TeamTwoPhatLadies, 1:19:14





Jordan Robertson, Myer fourth grader, watches his shot after lobbing up a three-point attempt.



Sha'Toya Edwards, left, Myer Elementary fourth grader, narrowly edges out the competition to win the Girls 100 meter dash with a time of 14.73 seconds.



Keith Smith, Myer fourth grader, rares back to toss a long one during the boy's softball toss.

Field Day and fun runs

Myer Elementary School held its annual Field Day and Fun Runs Monday and Tuesday for its fourth and fifth graders. For the Field Day, there were 11 events, some coed, some gender seperated, and the Fun Runs consisted of a 1.2 mile race broken down into girls and boys and by grade. Photos by Sgt. Cullen James.



Denise Thielman, Myer fourth grader, takes a shot during the free throw team competition.

Field Day and Fun Run winners

Monday's Field Day winners:

Fourth Grade:

| Event | Winner | Class |
|------------------|---------------------|---------|
| 3-point | | Camps |
| Jump Rope | | Powell |
| Free throw | | Powell |
| Boy flying disc | Gabe Zelaya | Bergman |
| Boy Soccer | Steven Estrada | Camps |
| Girl Soccer | Sandy Baxley | Bergman |
| Girl Softball | Kayla Walker | Bergman |
| Boy Softball | Drake Meadows | Horton |
| Girl flying disc | Daniella Pudelwitts | Bergman |
| Boy 100 | Andrew Turner | Barnes |
| Girl 100 | Sha'Toya Edwards | Camps |
| Girl 440 | Shante Bell | Powell |
| Boy 440 | Daniel Roberts | Horton |
| Girl 440 Relay | | Barnes |
| Boy 440 Relay | | Powell |
| Mile Relay | | Bergman |
| Girl Mile | Cathy Lewis | Powell |
| Boy Mile | Ryan Copeland | Bergman |
| Team Scores: | | |
| | Place | Points |
| | 6th | 103 |
| | 5th | 108 |
| | 4th | 112 |
| | 3rd | 126 |
| | 2nd | 135 |
| | 1st | 160 |
| | | Class |
| | | Barnes |
| | | Bergman |
| | | Horton |
| | | Camps |
| | | Bowie |
| | | Powell |

Fifth Grade:

| Event | Winner | Class |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 3 point | | Quarto |
| Jump Rope | | Quarto |
| Free throw | | Madarang |
| Boy flying disc | John Suttles | Madarang |
| Boy Soccer | Justin Togisala | Quarto |
| Girl Soccer | Courtney Agualo | Quarto |
| Girl Softball | Robin Caldwell | Chesleigh |
| Boy Softball | Jonathan Arbino | Mapoles |
| Girl flying disc | Emily Mohoroski | Mapoles |
| Boy 100 | Marion Sanders | Madarang |
| Girl 100 | Chane Williams | Madarang |
| Girl 440 | Nataschu Brooks | Burelson |
| Boy 440 | Titus Makin | Mapoles |
| Girl 440 Relay | | Madarang |
| Boy 440 Relay | | Chesleigh |
| Girl Mile | Elise Dewey | Chesleigh |
| Boy Mile | Tyrell Wallace | Quarto |
| Team Scores: | | |
| | Place | Points |
| | 6th | 77 |
| | 5th | 100 |
| | 4th | 111 |
| | 3rd | 137 |
| | 2nd | 139 |
| | 1st | 157 |
| | | Class |
| | | Romo |
| | | Mapoles |
| | | Madarang |
| | | Quarto |
| | | Burelson |
| | | Chesleigh |

Tuesday's Fun Run winners:

Fourth Grade girls:

| Place | Runner | Class |
|-------|-----------------|---------|
| 10th | Amanda Bate | Powell |
| 9th | Kurstin Adamson | Barnes |
| 8th | Brittany Scott | Camps |
| 7th | Chomin Dalton | Camps |
| 6th | Yanil Ramirez | Bergman |
| 5th | Ester Jin | Barnes |
| 4th | Shante Bell | Powell |
| 3rd | Aubry Jones | Barnes |

| | | |
|-----|------------------|--------|
| 2nd | Sha'Toya Edwards | Camps |
| 1st | Cathy Lewis | Powell |

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Team Score: | |
| Bergman | 5 points |
| Barnes | 16 points |
| Camps | 16 points |
| Powell | 18 points |
| (1.2 mile run, 31 total runners) | |

Fourth Grade boys:

| Place | Runner | Class |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---------|
| 10th | Michael Hall | Camps |
| 9th | Josh Brock | Powell |
| 8th | Matt Quick | Bergman |
| 7th | Curits Thomas | Powell |
| 6th | Tyler Graves | Powell |
| 5th | Chris Nieto | Camps |
| 4th | Andrew Turner | Barnes |
| 3rd | Kyle Olsen | Horton |
| 2nd | Daniel Robertson | Horton |
| 1st | Thomas Gaffney | Powell |
| Team Score: | | |
| Camps | 7 points | |
| Barnes | 7 points | |
| Bowie | 10 points | |
| Horton | 17 points | |
| Powell | 17 points | |
| (1.2 mile run, 24 total runners) | | |

Fifth Grade girls:

| Place | Runner | Class |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 10th | Nyesha Green | Burelson |
| 9th | America Duckworth | Burelson |
| 8th | Cassi Liriano | Mapoles |
| 7th | Chelsea Madarang | Chesleigh |
| 6th | Janea Edwards | Chesleigh |
| 5th | Elizabeth Boyle | Mapoles |
| 4th | Shabrell Hamilton | Burelson |
| 3rd | Jenny Lewis | Quarto |
| 2nd | Ashlee Bate | Mapoles |
| 1st | Elise Dewey | Chesleigh |
| Team Score: | | |
| Quarto | 8 points | |
| Burelson | 9 points | |
| Mapoles | 18 points | |
| Chesleigh | 19 points | |
| (1.2 mile run, 26 total runners) | | |

Fifth Grade boys:

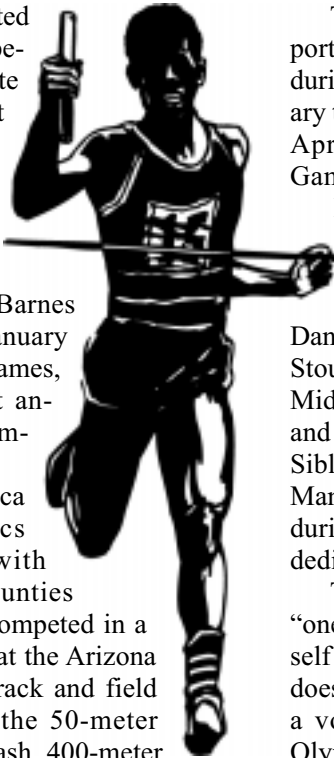
| Place | Runner | Class |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 10th | Neamiah Jones | Madarang |
| 9th | Corey Miller | Burelson |
| 8th | Torry Whitley | Chesleigh |
| 7th | Kevin Stewart | Quarto |
| 6th | Dennis Corder | Chesleigh |
| 5th | Ricardo Morales | Romo |
| 4th | Josh Wellborn | Chesleigh |
| 3rd | Titus Makin | Burelson |
| 2nd | Matt Kelly | Chesleigh |
| 1st | Tyrell Wallace | Quarto |
| Team Score: | | |
| Madarang | 1 point | |
| Romo | 8 points | |
| Burelson | 10 points | |
| Quarto | 14 points | |
| Chesleigh | 24 points | |
| (1.2 mile run, 33 total runners) | | |

Special Olympics program hails athletes, volunteers

By Thomas R. Whipp
Sierra-Huachuca Special Olympics

The dreams of 19 Sierra Vista Special Olympians were realized as they competed in The Arizona Special Olympics State Summer Games at Arizona State University, May 4-6. Sierra Vista's athletes began their training at Fort Huachuca's Barnes Field House in January for the Summer Games, Arizona's biggest annual Special Olympics event.

Sierra-Huachuca Special Olympics athletes, along with other Arizona counties and delegations, competed in a number of events at the Arizona State University track and field arena, including the 50-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter



racewalk, 4x100 meter relay race, running and standing long jumps, shot put throw, softball throw and individual softball skills.

The volunteers and coaches who supported the Sierra Vista Special Olympians during track and field practices from January to May, the Douglas Regional Meet in April, and the Arizona State Summer Games, include: Nic Ambrosini, Frank Morrison, Maria Calchera, Dee Whipp, Parmalee Mitchell, Cindy Rogers, Marcia Daniels, Jim Perry, Don Townsend, Russell Stout, Sherri Bassinger, Bisbee's Barbara Middleton and Sue Speicher, Joe Lopez, and Aires staff members Carl and Annita Sibley, Gloria Leon and Tamala Lindsey. Many others gave their time and resources during the season. Their contribution and dedication is appreciated.

The dictionary definition of volunteer, "one who enters into or offers himself/herself for a service of their own free will," doesn't begin to accurately describe what a volunteer contributes to the Special Olympics Program. They are invaluable.

Congratulations to all the athletes for making this a successful and rewarding year for all. Special thanks also goes to the U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Huachuca; the Knights of Columbus, Sierra Vista Kiwanis Club, Cochise Health and Racquet Club and the Landmark Café for their support and contributions.

The following results are based on heats conducted throughout the Arizona Special Olympics State Games

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 50m Dash | |
| Lisa Adamson | 4th Place Ribbon |
| Beverly Albright | 4th Place Robbon |
| Deanna Equils | 4th Place Ribbon |
| C.J. Jones | 5th Place Ribbon |
| Stacy Green | Silver Medal |
| Yolanda Indgo | Silver Medal |
| Darcy Walters | Bronze Medal |
| Kathy Wyckoff | 5th Place Ribbon |
| Ed Norris | 5th Place Ribbon |
| Glenn Erbe | Silver Medal |
| Markland Lord | 4th Place Ribbon |
| Michael Monte-Eton | 5th Place Ribbon |
| Rodney Tost | Bronze Medal |
| 200m Dash | |
| Damian Kingston | Bronze Medal |
| 400m Racewalk | |
| Lisa Adamson | Silver Medal |
| Running Long Jump | |
| Isaac Garcia | Bronze Medal |
| Marklin Lord | Gold Medal |
| David Valenzuela | Silver Medal |
| Standing Long Jump | |

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Damian Kingston | Place Ribbon |
| Shotput | |
| Deo Calchera | Bronze Medal |
| Isaac Garcia | Silver Medal |
| Angelo Garner | Silver Medal |
| Pat Jones | Gold Medal |
| Softball Throw | |
| Deanna Equils | Gold Medal |
| Darcy Walters | Bronze Medal |
| Ed Norris | Bronze Medal |
| Rodney Tost | 5th Place Ribbon |
| Softball Skills | |
| Beverly Albright | Bronze Medal |
| Deo Calchera | Silver Medal |
| C.J. Jones | Gold Medal |
| Stacy Green | 4th Place Ribbon |
| Yolanda Indgo | 6th Place Ribbon |
| Kathy Wyckoff | Bronze Medal |
| Glenn Erble | 5th Place Medal |
| Michael Monte-Eton | Bronze Medal |
| 4x100 Relay Team #1, Silver Medal | |
| Angelo Garner | |
| Pat Jones | |
| Isaac Garcia | |
| Michael Monte-Eton | |
| 4x100 Relay Team #2, 6th Place Ribbon | |
| Markland Lord | |
| Beverly Albright | |
| David Valenzuela | |
| Damian Kingston | |
| Powerlifting - Bench Press - Deadlift Combination | |
| Angelo Garner | 4th Place, Gold Medal, Bronze Medal |
| Pat Jones | Silver Medal in each |
| Danny Vescio | Silver Medal, 2 Gold Medals |
| Dori Vescio | Bronze Medal in each |

(Editor's note: Thomas R. Whipp is the Competition/Games Chairperson with the Sierra-Huachuca Special Olympics.)

Army modifies lifeguard policy, posts may adopt state policies

By Shirley Blankenship
MWR Feedback

With summer fast approaching, Morale, Welfare and Recreation managers' thoughts turn to swimming and lifeguards.

MWR stand-alone swimming pools must have dedicated lifeguards on duty once the facilities are open. (Governing policy is in Army Regulation 215-1, paragraph 8-22.) Fresh and salt-water activities, such as beaches, lakes and ponds, must provide control measures to protect personnel using these areas if lifeguards are not present. (Governing policy is in AR 215-1, paragraph 8-18b(27).)

However, there has been a modification to the lifeguard requirement at other swimming facilities. In January, Maj. Gen. R.L. Van Antwerp, the assistant chief of staff for installation management, approved



a waiver that eliminates the requirement for lifeguards at recreational lodging and Army lodging program swimming pools. This change was announced in an Army-wide message and is effective for two years.

The specific policies waived include AR 215-1,

Definition of affected facilities

Recreation Lodging Facilities

These facilities are under the umbrella of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation program and are nonappropriated funded revenue-generating programs. They are used for leisure and recreation purposes by all authorized patrons and their families. They include AFRCs, inns, hotels, motels, condominiums, and recreation areas located on or off the installation. Ancillary activities may include fitness facilities, swimming pools, dining and entertainment, salons, and other activities or programs that normally are offered by similar civilian establishments.

Army Lodging Facilities

These facilities are independent of the MWR program. Fees and charges for rooms and amenities are deposited to, and costs of furnishings, refurbishment, and amenity upgrades are paid from a billeting or lodging fund. They include temporary duty lodging facilities and guesthouses. These official travel quarters are used by personnel on temporary duty travel and by personnel and their families in a permanent change of duty status. Facilities are built, leased, acquired, maintained, managed, and operated primarily with appropriated funds (or contracted or acquired through the APF contracting process). Effective Oct. 1, guesthouse facilities will be independent of the MWR program and managed and operated under the lodging or billeting fund.

paragraph 8-22c(2), Oct. 25, 1998; AR 385-15, paragraph 5b(5), Oct. 15, 1979; and Technical Manual 575, paragraph 12-1, July 2, 1993. These are the publications that spell out where lifeguards are required.

The Department of the Army policies modified by the waiver allow commanders who are responsible for recreation lodging and Army Lodging Program facilities with swimming pools to adopt the state standard for staffing of pools. Overseas, the standard is that of the host country or as determined by international agreement. If there is no standard, the commander makes the decision.

Prior to eliminating lifeguards, however, officials must consider a risk analysis to determine risk factors and put effective protective measures in place to control identified risks. The risk management process is explained in Field Manual 100-14 found at www.tradoc.army.mil.

In addition, if the commander elects not to provide lifeguards at facilities affected by the waiver, the pools must be equipped with the following:

- Posted signs announcing "No lifeguards, swim at your own risk," and "Adults must accompany children;"
- Lifesaving equipment;
- Emergency phone in pool area;
- A written plan and schedule to ensure water quality checks are performed, pools are kept clean, and filter/chemical equipment are operated and maintained;
- An employee certified in cardiovascular pulmonary resuscitation.

The commander must also obtain the advice of the local staff judge advocate on the effect local state tort law has on the water safety measures.

Dare to play

Test strategy, tactical skills in chess

MWR Feedback

“You attack, you defend, you maneuver, you try to outflank your opponent.” That’s how Sgt. Joseph L. Spencer, the 1999 Army Chess Champion, describes the game of chess.

Who will challenge Spencer for the title this year at the 2000 All Army Chess tournament Aug. 11-18, at the Fort Myer Community Center, Fort Myer, Va.?

The tournament, an Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation activity sponsored by the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, will pit the Army’s top 12 chess players against each other.

Soldiers who have been on active duty 90 days or more are eligible to apply for selection to the single round robin competition rated by the United States Chess Federation and conducted by a USCF-rated tournament director.

Players are selected based on USCF-rated tournament activity, the level tournament play, and their current USCF rating.

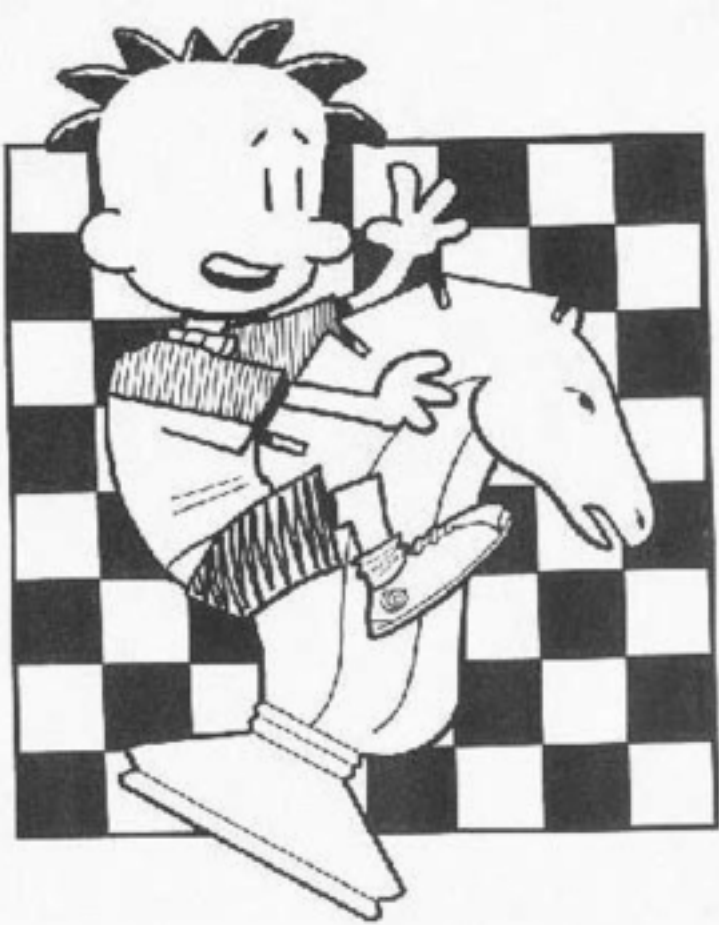
Applications must be submitted to the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center by or before July 14 on DA Form 4878-R. Soldiers can apply online, by fax, or by mail.

The form and detailed information are available online at www.armymwr.com, under Community Recreation Center Programs.

Soldiers must also include a memorandum from their commanders ensuring their availability to participate in the International Military Chess Tournament Oct. 23-27.

The top six place winners from the All Army tournament will represent the United States at this NATO-sponsored event in Leopoldburg, Belgium.

Installation level chess tournaments are expected to take place during June and July at local recreation or community activity centers. To take up the chess challenge, contact local MWR or Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers representatives for local dates and locations.



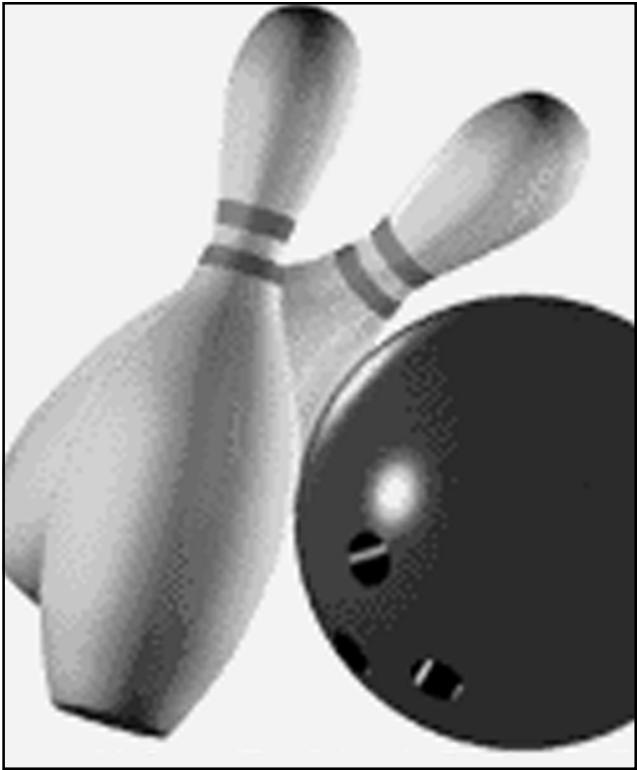
Armed Forces bowling managers to meet in Vegas

MWR Feedback

More than 350 vendors are expected at this year’s Armed Forces Bowling Managers Conference, June 18-23 in Las Vegas.

The conference is being held in conjunction with the Bowling Proprietors Association of America and the International Bowling Pro Shop and Instructions Association meetings.

The theme, “Targeting a New Generation of Profits,” will focus on operations, marketing, human resources and personal development. An Army-sponsored Dick Ritger coaching class will be held June 15-17 and can be registered for in conjunction with the conference through the BPAA, at no additional cost. The BPAA sent registration packets to installations in early march. For more information, call the BPAA at (817) 649-5105 or visit the BPAA web site at www.bpaa.com/BPAA.



Army offers pilot, paratrooper training to ‘Fantasy Job’ winner

By Staff Sgt. Jack Siemieniec
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army will give one lucky person the chance to be an Apache pilot and paratrooper in a new program aimed to raise awareness of the military.

The Department of Defense announced May 18 a partnership with Internet search engine Yahoo! to co-sponsor the “Fantasy Careers in Today’s Military” contest.

Defense officials described it as “A new advertising initiative to raise awareness about today’s military by using the Internet as the medium.”

They also said the contest is designed to expose the public to the military’s role.

“There are increasingly fewer Americans who have direct experience with today’s military, fewer people who know someone who has served or is serving in uniform,” said Navy Cmdr. Yvette Brown-Wahler, assistant director for recruiting plans.

“With fewer military connections to society and fewer adult influencers to discuss career options, generations of youth receive less exposure to military opportunities, benefits, careers and even its adventures.

“We want adult influencers to understand how young people can grow and gain confidence in them-

selves through military experiences,” she continued.

The contest is ongoing and ends July 4. It offers five winners, one for each DoD service plus the Coast Guard, the chance to experience a particular career in the military for a period of two to five days.

Entrants can register through the “Yahoo! Careers” homepage at <http://careers.yahoo.com> and enter from one to all five of the categories.

As part of their entry, contestants must submit a resume to Yahoo! and write a brief - up to 200 words - essay. The essay subject for the Army is “Why do you want to experience helicopter flight and paratrooper training with the U.S. Army?” They will be judged on their submitted essay and resume. Finalists will undergo a telephone interview to decide the winner.

The Army winner will first train in a flight simulator at the Army Aviation School at Fort Rucker, Ala., and take a front seat ride in an AH-64 Apache Attack helicopter. He or she will then fly to Fort Bragg, N.C., to train in the wind tunnel — simulating military free-falling — and finally make a tandem jump with a member of the Army’s Golden Knights parachute team.

Yahoo! and Defense officials state that entrants must be at least 18 years old and medically qualified

to participate.

Defense officials said Yahoo! contacted them last fall about joining the promotion. In the past year, the company has presented five other “Fantasy” careers, with sponsors ranging from Ben and Jerry’s Ice Cream to Sega Dreamcast to the NASDAQ stock exchange.

Yahoo! is used monthly by more than 145 million individuals, said Tanya Singer, a producer with Yahoo! Careers. She added that Yahoo! Careers brings together over one million job openings from sites throughout the Web.

The Army currently has spent about \$300,000 in advertising on Yahoo!, said Brown-Wahler. In addition, the Department of Defense will spend an additional \$250,000 in connection with the contest, said Vice Adm. Patricia Tracey, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military personnel policy.

“I’m sure that between us, we hope to know better how to use Yahoo! and other types of search engines as a means of drawing people to military information,” Tracey said.

She also said that while they don’t have any hard numbers, Defense officials know that recruiting “leads generated through the Internet tend to have a much

See Fantasy, Page 7



DoD photo by R.D. Ward

Fantasy career?

Army Spc. Shawn Broe, of the 82nd Airborne Division, tells reporters at a Pentagon news briefing on May 18 what is in store for one of the winners of the Military Fantasy Career Contest. The DoD, in cooperation with Yahoo! Inc., launched an awareness initiative that will allow Internet users the opportunity to experience a “day in the life” of either a soldier, sailor, airman, Marine or Coast Guardsman. See related story Pages 9 & 10.

Reviews, from Page 3

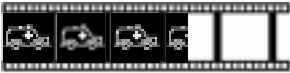
his work, and eventually comes to terms with everything through acceptance.

The movie is beautifully filmed. Scorsese puts more of his cinema magic to play. He mixes dark and gritty streets with the florescent haze of the hospital to accomplish a setting right out of one of Dante’s levels of hell. The ambulance scenes shift from serene — a place for Pierce to hide — to manic. All the while, Pierce keeps seeing the face of Rose, the girl he couldn’t save, on the faces of street people as he drives buy. She asks, “Why didn’t you save me, Frank?” Or is he asking himself?

Eventually, Pierce accepts what he is and what he’s seen, but the film leaves you there. There’s no great revelations, no closure, just acceptance. The film received mildly scathing comments for this, but perhaps that was the lesson after all.




The movie could easily receive a rating of four on cinematography alone; the acting also supports it. However, the film loses it’s steam in places and you have to want to get back into it. I give the film:

Three-and-a-half ambulances.




     = Excellent (*ER*)

    = Very Good (*Chicago Hope*)

   = Average (*Third Watch*)

  = Below Average (*an HMO*)

 = Poor (*TRICARE*)

Play ball: Thai Marines teach Devil Dogs new tricks

**By Lance Cpl. Chad C. Adams, USMC
Special to the American Forces Press Service**

SONGKHLA, Thailand — Several Marines were treated to a new sport here recently as members of the Thai Marines put on a show playing a game they call “takraw.”

“It’s very fun,” said U.S. Marine 2nd Lt. Denny Meelarp, a translator with Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, who grew up in both Thailand and the United States. “It’s a mix between soccer and volleyball, but it’s real fast.”

Takraw is a hybrid of soccer and volleyball. Players square off in teams of three, separated by volleyball net strung low across the court. A small, woven plastic ball must go over the net within three hits, but as in soccer, players can use only the head, feet, knees and elbows to hit the ball.

As in volleyball, teams score only when they have the serve, and games are played to 15.

Unlike volleyball, a player can hit the ball twice in a row.

As different as takraw may be to any sport most Americans know, the most impressive aspect isn’t the rules but the way the Thais play.

A volleyball team might bump the serve, set at the net and then spike the ball with a thunderous down-

swing of the hand. In takraw, a serve might be bumped with a knee or head; set by kicking, “heading” or kneeling the ball high into the air; and spiked via a back flip and Pele-like bicycle kick. Others might spike the ball by jumping into the air, extending one leg high in front of their faces with a Bruce Lee-style karate kick before bringing it down on the ball.

“Seeing them do that — flip, kick — that’s awesome,” said Marine Sgt. Michael G. Phelps, field wireman, Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division.

When two competitive Thai teams play, the action becomes a high-flying spectacle as players jump and kick at the net while opponents counter by trying to block the shot with their feet or heads. As much as NBA players play above the rim, these spectacular athletes definitely have hops - which explains why this age-old Asian sport is beginning to spread.

“It’s actually a sport that’s starting to grow in the states,” Meelarp said. “It’s kind of like our basketball back in the states or our baseball.”

For a little while, Thai and U.S. Marines took time out from their hectic training schedules. They came together and overcame the difficulties of language barriers to create lasting images and broaden their worlds. They came together through sport.

Fantasy from Page 6

higher turn rate than leads that are generated by other media right now. So it is a high payoff medium for us.”

Tracey added that recruiting figures for the Army for this fiscal year show it to be at 94 percent of its goal.

As part of the press conference announcing the partnership, Defense officials had nine service members step forward and describe their jobs.

The Army was represented by Apache pilot Chief Warrant Officer 2 Allen Kidwell from the 8th Battalion, 229th Aviation Regiment at Fort Knox, Ky., and Spc. Shawn Broe, 21, from the 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Describing the best part of his job, Kidwell said, “The fun is just being able to go out and take a \$15 million aircraft and go play with it. Of course we’re doing our job, but it becomes all fun once you get into the ring of things.

“You’re constantly thinking, you’re constantly on the ball. You have to be ahead of the game in order to stay ahead of the aircraft, otherwise it will bite you - and that all becomes fun.”

Broe drew chuckles from the press conference audience as he described the equipment he carries when he jumps and said he’d be happy to “show the contest winner what Army paratroopers do all day, all night, all the way. Airborne, hooah!”

“I love being an Army paratrooper. For me, my favorite part would be after you get done with something real hard, whether it’s been a 12 or 15-mile road

march with 80 pounds on your back, or whatever it was, it’s not fun during it, but when you’re done, you’ve got a lot of pride. You feel good for what you’re doing,” Broe said.

As for jumping out of an aircraft, he added, “You’re standing there, you’re hooked up to the cable, you’re looking out the door and see nothing but trees or houses or whatever’s underneath going by at however fast.

“Just looking out that door and knowing that whenever that light turns from red to green, you’re going. It’s real exciting, it’s a feeling that goes through your whole body. It’s just a rush,” he addeed.

Sgt. 1st Class Steven McClaflin, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, was also at the press conference, although space limitations bumped him from the stage.

McClaflin has been in the Army about 15 years, has been a drill instructor and Ranger instructor.

He said even after about 100 jumps, “You’ve got a lot of things running through your mind. You’re trying to run the actions you need to take to be safe in the air. There’s a thrill, probably a certain amount of fear.

“But there’s definitely a big thrill, the anticipation of stepping off a solid platform into the darkness with about 160 pounds (of equipment) strapped to your butt and you’re going out the door. Going through points of performance and waiting for that opening shock and just hoping to look up and see that the whole thing is up there. It’s a lot of fun.”